FILED

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N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

Tina M. Hill, C.H.H.A. Certificate No. 26NH06686000

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

HOMEMAKER HOME HEALTH AIDE IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

and conclusions of law are made:

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (the "Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Tina M. Hill ("Respondent") is a certified homemaker-home health aide in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
- 2. Upon receipt of a flagging notice indicating that Respondent was arrested on September 7, 2013 by the Gloucester Township Police Department for violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-10B, Use/Influence Controlled Substance, the Board sent a letter of inquiry, requesting certain information and submission of documents, to Respondent's address of record in Camden, New

Jersey, via regular and certified mail on or about September 18, 2013. A response was due within twenty (20) days. The regular mailing was not returned; according to the USPS website the certified mailing could not be tracked, it had a duplicate number. As a result, a second Flagging Letter was sent on or about March 31, 2014 via certified and regular mail. The regular mail was not returned, and the USPS website indicates that the certified mailing was unclaimed.

3. To date, Respondent has not responded to the Board's request for information.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's failure to respond to the Board's request for information constitutes a failure to cooperate with a Board investigation, in contravention of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2 and 1.3, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e), subjecting Respondent to disciplinary action pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on July 23, 2014, provisionally suspending respondent's certification to practice as a certified homemaker-home health aide, and imposing a \$200.00 civil penalty. A copy of the Order was served upon the respondent by certified and regular mail at her address of record. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the

Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30<sup>th</sup> day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent replied to the Provisional Order, providing the information requested in the Board's original letter of inquiry. Therefore the Board found that certification was no longer applicable under the terms of the Provisional Order. However, respondent's failure to timely respond to the Board's request for information caused undue delay. The Board should not have to expend the resources and issue an order to obtain information from its licensees. Therefore, the Board determined that Provisional Order should be finalized, imposing the \$200 civil penalty.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this  $\frac{13}{13}$  day of  $\frac{3}{12}$  day of  $\frac{3}{12}$  ordered that:

1. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200). Payment shall be made by certified check or money order, payable to the State of New

Jersey, delivered to George Hebert, Executive Director, State Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Payment shall be made no later than 15 days after the entry of any Final Order of Discipline in this matter. In the event Respondent fails to make a timely payment, a certificate of debt shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A 45:1-24 and the Board may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law.

2. The Board reserves the right to initiate disciplinary proceedings based upon any information that Respondent ultimately provides in response to the letter of inquiry or upon any new information the Board receives.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN

President